

By Mr. J. A. Kershaw, F.E.S.—Rare Victorian Moth, *Mochlotona phasmatis*, Meyr., in illustration of paper.

By Mr. C. Walter.—Plants new for Victoria. *Epaltes tatei*, F. v. M., Wimmera district, collected by Mr. St. Eloy D'Alton, Dimboola; *Aizoon zygophylloides*, F. v. M., Geelong district, collected by Mr. Ed. E. Pescott; and *Mitrasacme pilosa*, Labill., East Gippsland (new locality), collected by Mr. Ed. E. Pescott, Orbost.

By Mr. H. W. Whitney.—Nest of the Red-browed Finch, *Egintha temporalis*, Lath., from Healesville.

After the usual conversazione the meeting terminated.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW WREN OR MALURUS.

By A. J. CAMPBELL.

(Read before the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, 11th March, 1901.)

THE discovery of a black and white Malurus for Australia is an item of considerable interest to ornithologists. The only other pied species of this genus, *M. albiscapulatus*, Meyer, is found in New Guinea, from which the Australian species differs in having the upper wing coverts and inner secondaries, in addition to the scapulars, white.

For the new bird I beg to propose the name *Malurus edouardi*, in honour of our new monarch, His Majesty King Edward VII., this being the first Australian bird discovered during his reign. Moreover the royal family have always evinced a great interest in natural history. The bird will be known on the Vernacular List as the "Black and White Wren."

This new Wren was the discovery of the collector of the Perth Museum, and was procured amongst spinifex grass on Barrow Island, off the north-western coast of Australia, during December, 1900. Through the courtesy of Mr. Bernard Woodward, F.G.S., the curator, three specimens are exhibited here to-night, and I have to express my indebtedness to him for kindly permitting me to record their descriptions, which are as follow:—

(1) An adult male. General colour glossy blue-black; wings brownish, the primaries being edged with blue-black; side of upper breast, scapulars, inner secondaries, and upper wing coverts pure white; irides, bill, and tarsi black.

(2) Male, young, or in seasonal change. Feathers of the wing coverts and secondaries are partly brownish and partly white.

(3) Immature male. The greater portion of the wing coverts is brownish-white. The black under surface of the body is curiously mottled with white.

The female, judging by analogy, will no doubt be brownish,

paler on the underneath part, but having regard to its environments it will probably be more rusty-coloured than the females of the other known members of its genus.

Dimensions in inches :—

	Length.		Culmen.		Wing.		Tail.		Tarsus.
(1)	4.5	...	.35	...	1.8	...	2.0	...	.75
(2)	4.5	...	.35	...	1.75	...	2.05	...	.75
(3)	4.75	...	.35	...	1.8	...	2.2	...	.75

NOTES ON A RARE VICTORIAN MOTH, *MOCHLOTONA PHASMATIAS*, MEYR.

BY JAS. A. KERSHAW, F.E.S.

(Read before the *Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria*, 11th March, 1901.)

THIS species, which is one of the rarest of our Geometers, and is included in the family Selidosemidæ, was described by Mr. E. Meyrick, F.E.S., in the Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., p. 673, 1891, from a single specimen collected by Dr. T. P. Lucas at Warragul, Gippsland, Victoria.

Owing to the marked difference in neuration from its nearest allies, Mr. Meyrick decided to form a new genus for its reception, and up to the present time this is the only species known.

Although fully ten years have elapsed since the first specimen was taken, I do not know of any other specimens having been collected, excepting those taken by myself some years ago at Narracan, Gippsland, and a single specimen which I recently saw in the collection at the Australian Museum, Sydney, and which was taken at Warra, New South Wales.

On two or three occasions when collecting in Gippsland I was fortunate not only in capturing several fine specimens, but in taking a single larva from which I successfully reared a male. The specimen described by Meyrick was unfortunately a female, so that he was unable to give one or two important characters only found in the male. These I am now able to supply, and as my specimens differ somewhat from the description given by Meyrick, besides in two or three instances showing considerable variation both in markings and extent of colouring in both upper and lower wings, I have thought it desirable to give a full description of both the typical form and the variety. In addition I give a detailed description of the larva and pupa.

Examples of the specimens here described have been placed in the collection of the National Museum, Melbourne.

In justice to Mr. Meyrick I must state that on forwarding a specimen to him he readily identified it as the male of his type, and it is partly at his suggestion that I give the following details.

Male.—56 mm. Head and thorax greyish with a few black